Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for constructing a system, comprising the steps of:

in response to a specification of a component provided by a system configuration editor, generating said component in a drawing screen of said system configuration editor;

associating a plurality of components by one of the steps of: including said component in any other component, superposing said component on any other component, and responding to an operation that generates a connecting line that associates said component and any other component;

recording attribute data that is input as a property of said component; and

automatically generating a configuration file of said system from said attribute data and a configuration file template;

wherein the step of automatically generating a configuration file comprises one of the steps of:

replacing a shadow property included in said configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property specific to said system; and

expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace

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at least one of: replacing said shadow property or and the property specified in said macro function with a plurality of properties specific to said system.

Claim 2 (previously amended):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of generating said component further comprises the step of:

inputting default data to a part of attribute data of said component, wherein said default data includes an influence area of said component and a reference point of said component.

Claim 3 (previously amended):   The method according to claim 2, wherein in the step of associating a plurality of components, if all or part of said component is included within an influence area of any other component, then a part of attribute data of said component inherits the attribute data of said other component.

Claim 4 (previously amended):   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of automatically generating said configuration file further comprises the step of:

referring to information about a product version used in said system, and selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version.

Claim 5 (currently amended):   A system for constructing a system, comprising:

means for providing components of said system;

means for displaying said components and relations between said components and editing an arrangement of said components;

means for generating or inputting and displaying properties of said components; and

means for receiving said properties that are generated or input as attribute data of said components and automatically generating a configuration file of said system;

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wherein the means of automatically generating a configuration file comprises one of following means:

replacing a shadow property included in ~~said~~ a configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property specific to said system; and

expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and <u>using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace at least one of:</u> ~~replacing~~ said shadow property ~~or~~ <u>and</u> the property specified in said macro function ~~with a plurality of properties specific to said system~~.

Claim 6 (previously amended): The system according to claim 5, further comprising means for generating said configuration drawing, comprising:

means for generating default data as a part of attribute data of a component, wherein said default data includes an influence area of said component and a reference point of said component; and

means for associating a plurality of components by one of the steps of: including said component in any other component, superimposing said component on any other component, and generating a connecting line that associates said component with any other component, wherein if said component is included within an influence area of any other component, then attribute data of said component inherits attribute data of said other component.

Claim 7 (canceled)

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Claim 8 (previously amended):   The system according to claim 5, wherein the means for automatically generating said configuration file further comprises:

means for referring to information about a product version used in said system, and selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version.

Claim 9 (previously amended):   A method for drawing a system configuration, comprising the steps of:

in response to a specification of a component of said system, generating said component in a drawing screen;

associating a plurality of components by one of the steps of: including said component in any other component, superposing said component on any other component, and responding to an operation that generates a connecting line that associates said component with any other component;

if said component is included within an influence area of any other component, then inheriting attribute data of said other component by attribute data of said component; and

recording attribute data that is input as a property of said component.

Claim 10 (previously amended):   The method according to claim 9, wherein the step of generating said component further comprises the step of:

inputting default data to a part of attribute data of said component, wherein said default data includes an influence area of said component and a reference point of said component.

Claim 11 (canceled)

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Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of inputting said property, wherein properties that can be input are restricted to a part of properties that can be associated with said component.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (previously amended): A system for drawing a system configuration, comprising:

means for providing components of a system;

means for displaying said components and relations between said components and editing an arrangement of said components;

means for inputting and displaying properties of said components;

means for, in response to the generation of a component, generating default data as a part of attribute data of said component, wherein said default data includes an influence area of said component and a reference point of said component; and

means for associating a plurality of said components by generating, moving or changing said component, such that said component is included in any other component or said component is superposed on any other component, or by generating a connecting line that associates said component with any other component, wherein if part of said component is included within an influence area of any other component, then attribute data of said component inherits attribute data of said other component.

Claim 15 (canceled)

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Claim 16 (previously amended): The system according to claim 14, wherein the means for inputting and displaying properties further comprises means for restricting properties that can be input to a part of properties that can be associated with a component.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method for generating a configuration file of a system, comprising the steps of:

receiving attribute data of components that comprise said system;

referring to information about a product version used in said system, and selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version; and

expanding said configuration file template with macro expansion;

wherein the step of expanding said configuration file template comprises one of the steps of:

replacing a shadow property included in said configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property that is specific to said system; and

expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and <u>using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace at least one of:</u> ~~replacing~~ said shadow property ~~or~~ <u>and</u> the property specified in said macro function ~~with a plurality of properties specific to said system~~.

Claim 18 (canceled)

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Claim 19 (currently amended):   A system for generating a configuration file of a system, comprising:

means for receiving attribute data of components that comprise said system;

means for referring to information about a product version used in said system, and selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version; and

means for expanding said configuration file template with macro expansion;

wherein the step of expanding said configuration file comprises one of the steps of:

replacing a shadow property included in said configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property that is specific to said system; and

expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and <u>using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace at least one of:</u> ~~replacing~~ said shadow property ~~or~~ <u>and</u> the property specified in said macro function ~~with a plurality of properties specific to said system~~.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (currently amended):   A computer-readable recording media recording a program for causing a computer to generate a configuration file, the program comprising:

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a function for receiving attribute data of components that comprise said system;

a function for referring to information about a product version used in said system;

a function for selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version; and

a function for expanding said configuration file template with macro expansion;

wherein the function for expanding said configuration file template comprises one of the following means:

means for replacing a shadow property included in said configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

means for expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property specific to said system; and

means for expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace at least one of: replacing said shadow property or and the property specified in said macro function with a plurality of properties specific to said system.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A computer-readable recording media, comprising:

a function for, in response to a specification of a component of said system, generating said component in a drawing screen;

a function for associating a plurality of said components by one of the steps of: including said component in any other component, or superposing said component on any other

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component, and responding to an operation that generates a connecting line that associates said component with any other component;

a function for, in response to a input of properties of said component, recording said input values as property data of said component;

a function for receiving attribute data of components that comprise said system;

a function for referring to information about a product version used in said system;

a function for selecting a configuration file template that matches said product version; and

a function for expanding said configuration file template with macro expansion;

wherein the function for expanding said configuration file template comprises one of the following means:

means for replacing a shadow property included in said configuration file template with a property specific to said system included in said attribute data;

means for expanding a macro function included in said configuration file template recursively, and replacing a property specified in said macro function with a property specific to said system; and

means for expanding recursively according to a macro control statement included in said configuration file template, and <u>using a plurality of properties specific to said system to replace at least one of</u>: ~~replacing~~ said shadow property ~~or~~ <u>and</u> the property specified in said macro function ~~with a plurality of properties specific to said system~~.

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